

the forum

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Greenfield Community College

December 20, 1976

The Monsters Are Free

By ROBIN FELLOWS

Nuclear energy is a monster. We have tried to humanize it since that fateful day in 1945 when our world saw the first successful construction of an atomic bomb. We have tried to humanize it the way my little brother tries to humanize his bad dreams of Frankenstein and werewolves. He sets monster traps, figuring that if he can just capture the monster and keep it encaged, it will either grow kind or disappear.

In confronting nuclear power of any type we are not dealing with a simpler element like my little brother's overactive imagination. We are dealing with a man-made body of such huge proportions and such a terrible potential for violence and destruction that it would make Bela Lugosi change his nature in the dark and retreat to the solitude of his coffin. In trying to subdue the monster, in our cry for subjection, for human development and for a substantial form of energy, we have created the means to destroy ourselves many times over. We have brought it into our homes, into our backyards, and we might as well be placing a welcome mat at the front door for a mugger. Each day that we allow the development of nuclear power, we turn the tables in our environment and it is the one force in the cosmos that will inevitably betray us.

The real panic has not yet begun, only the premonitions, the omens are brushing the surface, are bubbling up like some evil subterranean force. If our world would only pay closer attention to its dreams, to the signs instead of waiting for them to explode in a nightmare of horrifying certainty.

According to an article printed in the New York Times, December 9, 1976, a former Soviet physicist, Leo Tumerman, said in an interview, that a nuclear disaster occurred in the Soviet Union in the late 1950's as a result of careless storage of nuclear wastes. Tumerman said, he had seen the results of an atomic explosion during an automobile trip northwest from Chelyabinsk, in the foothills of the southern Urals, to the city of Sverdlovsk. Tumerman was on a visit to a brother working at the nuclear power plant construction project.

About 65 miles outside of the city of Sverdlovsk, he said, there was a sign warning drivers not to stop for the next 20 miles or so and to drive through the area at the fastest possible speed. "The reason was that the level of radiation was so high," "To the right and to the left as far as I could see was empty land. The land was dead — no villages, no towns, only chimneys of destroyed homes, no cultivated fields or pastures, no herds, no people — nothing. It was like the moon for many hundreds of square kilometers, useless and

unproductive for a very long time, maybe even hundreds of years . . ."

Tumerman had been informed at the time of his visit that he had just passed through the site of the "Kyshtym catastrophe," named for a town in the vicinity, and that a nuclear disaster a few years earlier had killed and injured many hundreds of people. "The area was filled with radiation" and "you couldn't drink the water or eat the fish." He said, that the accident had not been the result of a mishap at the nuclear power plant because at the time of the accident the area's nuclear plant was in the very early stages of construction. "All the people with whom I spoke — scientists as well as laymen — had no doubt that the blame lay with Soviet officials who were negligent and careless in storing nuclear waste," Professor Tumerman added.

This nuclear disaster in the Soviet Union has been reported several times, but all energies were radiated towards covering it up. Now though, the facts have leaked out; if we sit by like the people of Kyshtym, there will be no way to justify this paralysis of the senses, because there will be no senses. We are facing now some very bad signs but at least bad signs are signs of life. We have life now and we are safely tucked away in our college classrooms, a place which for all purposes should be gearing itself towards the attainment of a newer knowledge, of nurturing human enrichment, or growth and the God given forces of life.

Instead, we remain unruffled and can't seem to be able to look beyond our back door to see what is happening in Montague Plains, in Seabrook, in the nation, in the world. We journey about like happy highwaymen, content within the pretense of our Ivy walls, and in the facade of a scholarly approach to clean living we have managed to disregard the stark facts, the nightmare.

It angers me, it frightens me that we appear to be so right-on but continue to remain indifferent and remote to the naked realities. Do we think we can outwit time itself? I am not made up of the gutsyness of Sam Lovejoy or the people who stood at Seabrook. As it is now, my only tool is to use this verbiage and express my feelings, my fears about an issue which is so vast and foreboding that I cannot believe it is my fear alone, but in fact has been for quite some time a global fear, a silent hysteria which clutches us all at one time or another in the night or the day.

At present the unconvincing evidence, the propaganda, that nuclear power as a safe and productive means of energy has failed to satisfy my senses or persuade my intellect. There is too much against it. One hopeful element that will enable us to halt the construction of such a destructive force is that when

something is unconvincing it usually ceases to exist. I am convinced that nuclear technology of any form can never be used for peaceful purposes, that it can never be safe and that we must stop the production of it. It can only happen through the will of the people.

Somebody created the monster, somebody set it free and it will lurk in the darkness larger than any mythical beast we've ever known, until we stop it. If not only the devil that we have created, will dance as the earth spins alone in its own cold orbit.

Fight Night Packs Punch

By CARLO A. GONZALEZ

Fight Nite, as the tenth of December has come to be called, went on and off with the high spirit that it has been displaying from its inception. Promoter, Dave Johnson, said before the start of the event that there were a "few mix ups" but he was the only one. Who could tell. All I could see was well matched competition, an enthusiastic crowd and good sportsmanship.

Taking the first of seven trophies was "Big" John McInnis. His opponent, Lee McMennimin fought hard and long but was a little outgunned by experience. Two 160 pounders, Dave McMahon and Ted Smith went to it for six minutes. McMahon dominated the fight and brought home the mantle piece. The announcer for the nite, Charlie "Hawk" Murray was obliged to give the last of three boxing trophies to Rudy Woloss. Woloss won by decision over Jay Lemin. There was a lot of punching in that fight, mostly by Lemin, but Woloss threw the ones that counted most.

It was nine-thirty when the boxing exhibition fight between Al Romano and his sparring partner Henry Pepin started. Unapparent to most was the caliber of fighters they were watching. As a Junior Middle-Weight with 62 wins, next month Romano will be taking a shot at the title, which was a major reason for his holding back, so as not to get hurt unnecessarily before his big day.

With the boxing out of the way the real fighting started. The full contact Karate event ended after the first round when Jean Pierre Nutini was unable to return to the ring. Apparently, his body could not adapt quickly enough to an assortment of kicks and punches delivered by Dan Levenson. Both men displayed a physical speed and agility; added to their impressive size, they left the crowd applauding.

Dick "Sully" Sullivan took a close match from Peter MacDonald in the intermediate class. Sullivan, explained to me while Gary Newcombe was slugging his way to a win from Jim Robideau that points in Karate are characterized by clean and sharp hits.

Food Co-Ops Offers Buyers Alternative

By RICHARD WINTER

Many people are becoming concerned about the lack of opportunity to participate in decisions concerning various aspects of their lives. Decisions are constantly made on inaccessible corporate or government levels. Food is one of these areas. Usually you have no voice in determining either the quality or price of food available to you in the local supermarket. This is where the co-op comes in.

Food co-ops are springing up like mushrooms after a rain. The Community Co-op in Greenfield is one of them. People here get their food trip together for themselves. There is no paid staff; the co-op operation is run totally by the members themselves.

The objectives of the co-op, as stated in its charter are: (1) to provide quality food with an emphasis on consumer control over the price and handling of goods, (2) to promote consumer awareness of the impact of food on our daily lives, (3) whenever possible, to promote local agriculture.

The Community Co-op is part of a federation of co-ops and food activists against "food for excessive profit". It is also part of Western Mass. Co-ops, an organization whose members now serve approximately 5,000 family units in Western Massachusetts.

All members of the co-op work in some capacity of its total operation. There are three distribution teams which alternate each week in the distribution of the weekly produce orders. There is also a non-perishable bulk order team, and various weekly and bi-weekly jobs.

Much of the food is purchased from local producers. Milk comes from Northfield, cider from South Shelburne, and eggs from Colrain. Produce is purchased at the Chelsea Market in Boston, bulk orders from Rochester, N.Y. Cheese comes directly from Wisconsin, and other dairy products from the Cabot Dairy Cooperative in Vermont.

The members pre-order the perishable products a week in advance. Bulk non-perishables (such as flour, grains, nuts, etc.) are ordered once a month.

The procedure to join the co-op is to fill out a form, pay a five dollar non-refundable fee, and leave a refundable deposit in the amount of your estimated average weekly order. The new member is then assigned to one of the teams.

The food is sold at the wholesale price for which it was purchased plus a 10-15 per cent markup to cover maintenance expenses. There is also a weekly

newsletter, and food stamps are accepted.

The co-op has now been open for a period of fifteen months. According to Don Harris, coordinator of the co-op, "The rewards for our efforts, thus far, have not been so much an economic savings — since time and energy can only be given a random equivalence in dollars and cents — but rather, an extreme satisfaction in taking control over a necessary part of our lives".

The Community co-op is located on 86 Washington street in South Greenfield, in the Neighborhood Youth Center Building. Washington Street is the first left on Rte 5-10 South after Federal Street and Bank Row. It is open once a week, on Thursday between 4:30 and 6 p.m.

More information about the Community Co-op can be obtained at the co-op during the period when it is open, or by contacting Don Harris (624-5532.)

Games Brighten Christmas

By BRUCE CAISSE

A Christmas party was held at the housing complex for the Association for the Retarded on Wednesday evening December 15. The activities were musical chairs and dancing the Hully-Gully and the Hokey-Pokey. When the activities were finished, refreshments were served: cake, cookies, popcorn, ice cream, egg nog and soda.

While refreshments were being enjoyed by all, the poem "Twas The Night Before" was recited to them. When refreshments were completed, the exchanging of gifts took place. To end the party everybody sang Christmas Carols and wished each other a Merry Christmas.

Since this was the final program of the semester it might be appropriate to mention a few of the programs that highlighted this semester: Thanksgiving dinner, Christmas shopping at Mountain Farms Mall and the Halloween dance. Among the students who were responsible for the success of the programs throughout the semester were Pattie Gross, Gail Roberts and Bruce Caisse.



The Forum

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For the Entire College Community

Lewis O. Turner, President

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Agi Course Good Idea

By DAVID A. GEORGANTAS

With the advent of the Industrial Revolution in the 1800's, man unwaveringly geared himself away from the personal, imitative aspects of humanism, and unexpectedly found himself conforming to the impersonal mechanization of his technological endeavors. Contaminated by its own inventions, mankind was consistently drowning in the sea of perplexity that it had created.

An enigma which he had not anticipated was creeping down upon him with innumerable challenges: challenges requiring answers that were inconceivable and unobtainable. Progress became the key to a well-structured society; material contentment and acquisition was top priority. Machines became the focal point in every industry within a changing society that promised the marvels of technology — through this mediating device, man could aspire to levels of sophistication and grandeur that before were never even dreamed of. A new religious cult was born, the machine taking the role of the hyssop. What man failed to recognize was that he unintentionally became the sacrificial offering allowing the machine to infest itself into every aspect of his life; the cog and sprocket were the primary determinants in his every day affairs.

Only recently in history has man found himself engaged in the solution of these surmounting problems. These solutions focused not only upon the enhancement of the continual progression of society, but also upon the return of man to his involvement in inter-personal relationships previously lost in past years.

In retrospect of these events, it is imperative that mankind utilize his time and talents to promote goodwill and prosperity among his fellow human beings; to unify the alliance existing between men that is so often superseded by technology. This recently has been accomplished by employing such vehicles as Food-Coops, Farmer Coops, etc. which allow groups of

individuals to work together in a congenial manner; harmony and productivity, a true working atmosphere. Through methods similar to these, man is once again becoming self-aware and is regaining his identity, not only on an individual basis but on a community level as well.

We have been manipulated through the rapid development of our technology. In this respect, government has manipulated the consumer through outrageous price controls on produce, poultry, and other agricultural products. Massachusetts is just one of several states whose imported food sources exceeds its exports, a costly demerit against the residents of Massachusetts when one takes into consideration all the land available for farming.

The proposal to initiate an accredited agricultural course which would encompass the construction of a community garden on the grounds of G.C.C. is not only a feasible resource for promoting productivity and group relationships within the college, but can be of valuable experience to any student who chooses to pursue the course. What better way of initiating goodwill than by getting together with friends, old and new, working together in the clean outdoors, tilling the soil, and planting fruits, vegetables and flowers in the moist, warm confines of the earth? Not only would each individual receive gratification from working with his fellow humans in a concordant atmosphere, but the profits obtained from selling produce from the garden could be applied towards scholarships, club funding, and other student-faculty related organizations within the college. The investment by the college would easily be returned.

Therefore, it is a shared feeling among the student body that the Administration take this recommendation into consideration and to offer to the

Student Senate in its full cooperation in pursuing this matter further.

Thank you, Robin Fellows!

The Hole

Far away and underground
beneath the shallow candlelight,
many beings sit sipping
slowly at a mixture of drinks.
As the hands are held
through laughter and smoke
come the refrains of Love Story
and other such selections.
The hour gets later
the people get greater
but very few will stray,
they stay straying instead
from reality.
Down deep in that
hole beneath the crust
of reality, people
become lost in a mixture
of mock romantic words
and piano notes.
Far away and underground
beneath the name of SERENDIPITY!

— Marjorie L. Held

Travel Tips

A pimp just dropped his luggage
and I just lost a tooth.
There's a wino in the men's room
sucking on a bottle of vermouth.
Can you breathe the air in L.A.?
And what about Andrea's fault?
There's an ocean for the tourist
equipped with lots of salt.
I just bought insurance
In case of a fatal crash
So my loved ones back in Haydenville
will be left with lots of cash.
I've never been to Burbank.
I hear it's lots of fun.
You can shop all night for groceries.
And you can still see Johnny Carson.
I'm gonna go and stump the band
my song no one has ever heard
Hey' outside of my window this plane,
just sucked up a flock of birds.
Hello, this is Captain Fisher
The time is 8:06
According to my calculations,
We aren't going to make it.
If you're ever in Massachusetts
say hello to my family
They are the ones
with lots of money
Thanks to my airline's policy.

TED PIERCE

Death

I am but an hourglass
time is but sand
spinning threw eternity
there is no set plan
I knew my name so long ago
sailing on trade winds
or was it but a thought
a memory from a forgotten friend
It's been so long since I have felt the warmth of the sun
or heard a sound from a child
where life had begun.
Death to me is a vision
like a man without a face
who claims the thought of memory
a soul is but a taste.

— Robert Evans

The Shore

The sun shines down
through the fog
as though it were
a forest.
Glinting here and there
it softly lights the dew.
Pebbles upon the sand
grow slowly dry
as the sun soars high
and the sea breezes blow.
I sit beside the beachgrass
a horseshoe crab and I, a
friendly peace we've made
to sit upon the sand
and watch the gulls go by.
The tide goes out as the
sun goes down.
The driftwood rides a
wave or two before
landing for the night
the stars come out
the gulls come in.
An inviting fire
glows softly down
the shore, I brush
the sand from with-
in my hair
and leave my spot of GLORY.

— Marjorie L. Held

Cookie Bake Aides Interaction

By PAUL SCHMIDT

Teenagers from ACTION in Charlemont, visited the homes of Diane Klein and Paul Schmidt, Greenfield Community College recreation department, to make Christmas cookies recently.

By the time everyone was done picking-up and taking the last batch out, about five dozen gingerbread and sugar cookies were made, but only three dozen could be accounted for. A few parlor games like Indian Sticks and Scissors were played and then it was time to go home with talk of another cookie bake.

The agency is designed to bring rural teenagers together one or more nights a week, so there is an atmosphere of interaction with each other beyond school hours. The role of the interns is to provide programs where the teenagers can grow and also to give guidance. The group has done other programs including a night experience, volleyball, arts and crafts, challenge-adventure and trips to the movies and fights.

To the Editor,

Many thanks to Dave Johnson and the Toboggan Club for the good time we all had at the dance on Dec. 3, 1976. We really appreciate the thought and the opportunity to expend excess energy. Once again we offer our thanks.

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"Happy Holidays!!"

Methane Generator Topic Of Discussion

By JOHN ROLLISON

People don't like dirty things. We all prefer things that appear clean, things with shiny surfaces. We shun dirt, we sweep it under the rug, out the door, we throw it away, but we never really get rid of it, we just move it from one place to another. And usually when we throw something away it ends up in a pile of rubbish at some dump where it'll get buried, or it might end up in an incinerator and be burned.

Though some of the leftovers from our plunderous ways are being recycled, much of the waste we produce is dealt with inefficiently and wastefully. Sewerage treatment in our society today exemplifies how waste is dealt with wastefully, and Les Auerbach, author of *Methane Gas Generator: A Homesite Power Unit* appeared as the guest of the Engineering Club recently to describe his idea for an alternative to the "archaic methods of sewerage treatment now in practice".

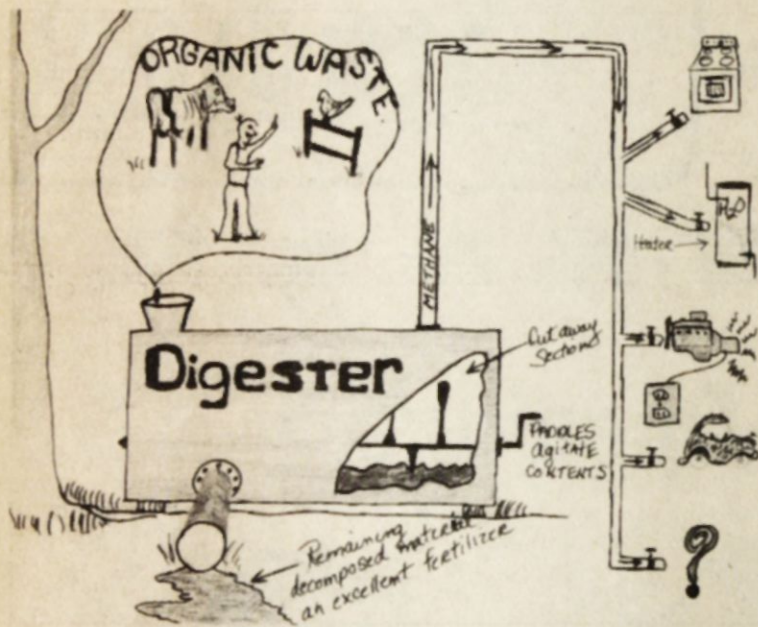
Auerbach has worked for nearly ten years to develop a process through which organic waste materials can be transformed into fertilizer and methane gas. The following is a diagram of how this process works;

bacteria going through their life processes cause the sludge-like matter to decompose. Methane gas is produced, and at the end of the cycle, the remaining sludge can be applied to croplands as a high quality fertilizing agent.

In the case of a waste treatment facility, the methane gas, produced by the process could be used to power the plant. In the case of a farmer, the gas could be similarly used with perhaps enough left over to run an electrical generator or for cooking, heating water, even the running of a car. And who's to say where the possibilities end. Maybe he'd be able to fertilize his croplands to boot.

The situations in which this system can be plugged are many. As Auerbach answered one student's curiosity, "each situation must be looked at in terms of input vs. output, advantages vs. disadvantages, and then one can decide if this method would be feasible . . . like the other alternative energy, no one approach will be applicable in every case.

Auerbach's book provides the reader with formulas and other info that help in assessing, or plugging in one's own situations



As can be seen, waste materials (human and animal manure and other organic materials) are put into an air tight tank. The tank or digester, is equipped with paddles which serve to agitate the matter within. The contents remain in the tank for approximately 30 days at a constant temperature of 85-95 degrees. During this time,

to the process, to see if it would make a feasible undertaking. It's available for \$5.40 by writing to Alternative Energy Systems, Les Auerbach, 242 Copse Rd., Madison, Conn. 06443.

Auerbach has also taught a course in the construction of such a unit, at UMass. He is unsure if he'll be doing so again.

Nurses To Get Financial Aid

WASHINGTON, D.C., U.S. Rep. Silvio O. Conte, R-Mass., and Sen. Edward W. Brooke today announced that a total of \$94,828 has been awarded to First District schools of nursing under the federal Nursing Student Loan Program and the Nursing Scholarship Program.

The Nursing Student Loan Program is intended to assist students to achieve careers in nursing by providing long-term, low-interest loans to help meet costs of education. The purpose of the Nursing Scholarship Program is to assist students of exceptional financial need to undertake courses of study leading to careers in nursing.

Under both programs, federal funds are allocated to accredited schools of nursing education. These schools are responsible for selecting the recipients of loans and for determining the amount of assistance a student requires under the Loan Program and for selecting the recipients of the scholarships and for determining the amount of the award under the Scholarship Program. Under both programs, students applying for assistance make application to the school in which they have been accepted for enrollment or in which they are enrolled.

Schools receiving funds under these programs are:

	Loan	Scholarship
Associate Degree Programs:		
Berkshire Community College	\$6,500	\$1,894
Greenfield Community College	\$9,835	\$2,320
Holyoke Community College	\$11,155	\$2,842
Baccalaureate Degree Programs:		
University of Massachusetts at Amherst	\$44,360	\$10,465
Graduate Degree Programs:		
University of Massachusetts at Amherst	\$4,415	\$1,042

A Raft Of Joy

Here it is again . . .
Another day to dream
daydreams of love
mist before my eyes.
Today is a day of rest
from the surrounding
sea of sadness
Today I rest upon
a raft of joy.
Marjorie L. Held
"untitled"

So often I see him beside me,
and hear his voice so calm and kind,
wondering where he'll be in time
I turn and find that gentle man
who means the world to me.
So often I can feel his gentle hand
and see the patient eyes
the warmth of security
and joy of life together.
Often times I have seen him
standing there so calm
just on the other side,
the far side of the bank.
The bank of fog that
makes dreams, dreams
and nothing more.

— Marjorie L. Held

Rec. Students

Help With

P.E. Course

By SANDI GOODMAN

The Greenfield Community College Recreation students are in full swing programming for the Greenfield Public School system physical education classes directed by Chris Hodge. During the fall semester students working for this setting are Sandi Goodman, Lynne Fisher and Julie Brockelman. Elementary schools included in the program are Green River, Pierce, Newton and Davis schools, grades K-6. The field work program enables students to utilize many areas of Recreation, such as drama, music, land sports and outdoor education. These areas can be interrelated into the setting to produce stimulating programs for the children.

Programming for the elementary age children will be challenging due to their short attention spans and abundance of energy. The students in this setting are hoping for a successful semester with program ideas ranging from group games to individualized activities for promoting finer motor skills.

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New Catalog Available Now

Dr. Alan D. Ferguson, Executive Director of the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE), has announced that copies of the New England Regional Student Program catalogues for the 1977-78 academic year have been mailed to New England high schools, colleges, and academic and public libraries.

The New England Regional Student Program catalogues — called "Apple Books" because of

their distinctive symbol — list more than 500 undergraduates and 290 graduate programs at 82 public universities, colleges, and two-year colleges and institutes throughout New England.

These programs offer considerable tuition savings, ranging from \$300 to over \$2,000 per year, because students enrolled in Regional Student programs in other New England states pay resident, rather than non-resident, tuition. Regional Student programs are offered at all levels, from the one-year certificate to the doctoral degree, with admissions preference given in many cases to New England applicants.

This year, NEBHE has published six undergraduate level catalogues in a convenient folded poster format, one for each New England state, listing the programs offered under the Regional Student Program to residents of a particular state. Copies of the appropriate state catalogue have been mailed to every high school guidance office in New England for distribution to students. A booklet listing every offering available under the Program, undergraduate and graduate, has been mailed to transfer and admissions officers at all public New England colleges and universities.

Free copies of the undergraduate and graduate catalogues are available from the New England Board of Higher Education, 40 Grove Street, Wellesley, Massachusetts 02181.

Skating Program Helps Country Kids

By DIANE KLEIN

The West County Action Program in Charlemont, run by Paul Schmidt and Diane Klein, student interns of the Recreation Leadership course at Greenfield Community College took the participants skating at the Greenfield Skating Rink Monday, December 6th from 3-5. The participants had a very exciting afternoon learning new skills and practicing old skills.

Other programs done in the past include a Night Hike, A volleyball tournament and a Taffy Pull.

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Rec. Students Help Girls

By LAURA CAMPBELL

For the past five weeks, G.C.C. field work interns, Donna Small and Laura Campbell of the Recreation Department, have been providing extension programs for the Girls Club on Monday afternoons at the Newton St. School. The programs are one and a half hours in length and strive to attain the objectives set forth by the Girls Club and the Recreation Department as well.

Having exposed the participants to a variety of programs, ranging from lead-up soccer games to bread dough art, the girls have begun a period of physiological, psychological and sociological growth. Being of varying socio-economic background and displaying unique personalities, the girls have been learning to work together as well as grow to understand each other's needs throughout each program.

The programs over the past five weeks have been planned in an effort to attain the goals and objectives of the Girls Club along with those of the G.C.C. Recreation Department. Most of the goals of each institution are interchangeable; with some of them being:

To confirm the theory, practice and principles of the Recreation Dept.

To plan, organize, conduct and evaluate well balanced programs.

To help girls become knowledgeable, creative, responsible and active participants in a representative society.

To take an active role as an advocate for the rights of girls of all backgrounds and abilities.

In conjunction with the G.C.C. field work program of the Recreation Department, the Girls Club outreach program at Newton St. School has been quite beneficial to both the girls and we as leaders. The goals and objectives of this program have been reached as the result of a positive learning experience for all involved.

As this phase of our leadership experience draws to an end with the close of another semester, this outreach program will continue to meet the needs of the girls under new leadership.

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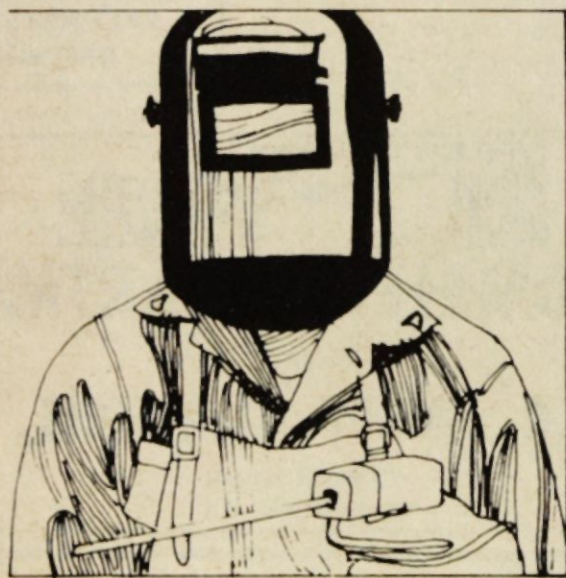
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